GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:223
ANSWERED ON:05.12.2001
TALIBAN REGIME
JAGMEET SINGH BRAR

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that many Jehadi groups from Muslim countries are joining Taliban forces to fight against American forces;

(b) whether it is also a fact that certain militant groups active in Kashmir have also crossed over to Afghanistan to help Taliban regime;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether diplomatic efforts have been made by the government to dissuade friendly Muslim countries from helping Taliban regime in war against terrorism; and

(e) if so, the success achieved so far?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH)

(a)-(e) A statement is placed on the Table of the House.
STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN PARTS (a)-(e) OF THE ANSWER TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.223 TO ANSWERED ON 5.12.2001

After the commencement of military action by the `forces of international coalition` against the Taliban regime, there were reports that Jehadi elements from Pakistan joined the Taliban in Afghanistan to fight alongside them.

Government, as part of its fight against international terrorism, including in Afghanistan, has been active diplomatically and had taken up the matter with a large number of countries, including representatives of the Islamic countries. We conveyed to our interlocutors that the events of 11th September, 2001 had once again brought to the forefront the extreme dangers posed by international terrorism including State sponsorship of such terrorism.

On account of global rejection of the obscurantist ideology of the Taliban, including by the Afghans themselves, and as a result of military successes of the United Front, the Taliban militia and foreign mercenaries are now restricted to limited pockets in a couple of provinces in Afghanistan. Currently no government in the world recognises the Taliban regime and even those countries that earlier did so have now withdrawn their recognition.